



# Contractor News Source Bulletin

LOUISIANA STATE LICENSING BOARD FOR CONTRACTORS  
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**Licensed Contractor**  
**.....It's the Law!**

## BULLETIN: 12-03

**March 15, 2012**

### **Solar Energy**

With the rising cost of energy, and the uncertainties that will keep energy markets volatile for the foreseeable future, people are looking for ways to save on energy costs. Solar panel systems are one of the ways homeowners and business owners alike are looking to save on energy costs. In order for a contractor to take advantage of this expanding market, he must first ensure that he has the proper licensure. To install solar panels, a contractor must possess a license in Building Construction, Electrical, or Mechanical from the Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC). Contractors with Building or Mechanical licenses must subcontract with a properly licensed electrical contractor for the electrical hookups and likewise when installing solar thermal equipment. Contractors with Building Construction or Electrical licenses must subcontract with a properly licensed mechanical contractor for the plumbing/mechanical hookups. Contractors interested in obtaining the specialty classification of Solar Energy Equipment must complete and provide proof to this Board that they have completed training in the design and installation of solar systems by an entity accredited by the LSLBC. Further, contractors possessing this specialty license will be able to offer their customers the opportunity to receive certain State and Federal Tax incentives for hiring properly trained contractors.

Homeowners should also be aware of these requirements for licensure before entering into any agreement for the installation of a solar system. Take some time to verify references from companies you are seeking to hire. Beware of promises that sound too good to be true. You may want to seek legal advice prior to entering into any long term agreements for your solar system. The tax incentives are for homeowners who make this investment in order to make their homes more energy efficient, and are **NOT** intended for contractors who sell or install the system.

***“Properly licensed and qualified contractors...It's the Law!”***

For questions or further information, please visit our website at [www.lslbc.louisiana.gov](http://www.lslbc.louisiana.gov) or contact us by phone at 225-765-2301 Ext. 213 or send an email to [newsletter@lslbc.louisiana.gov](mailto:newsletter@lslbc.louisiana.gov).